

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re US Patent Application of) Art Unit: 1724
Thomas W. Astle)
Serial No. 09/752,272) Examiner: I. Clintins
Filed: January 2, 2001)
Title: ELUTER FOR SOLID PHASE)
EXTRACTION SYSTEM) Date: August 7, 2003.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action, Paper No. 6, mailed April 8, 2003, and having a shortened statutory period set to expire July 8, 2003, extended to August 8, 2003, by petition filed herewith, and is in response to an Advisory Action, Paper No. 8, mailed July 21, 2003.